



HR 1817: The Department of Homeland Security Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2006

Committee on Homeland Security, Office of Communications
(202) 226-9600 <http://homeland.house.gov>

- Makes the DHS request for \$34.2 billion for Fiscal Year 2006 law

Physical Security

- Fully funds the recruitment and training of 2,000 new border agents
- Requires Secretary to conduct risk assessments at all foreign ports to determine the best locations to screen cargo bound for the United States
- Ensures overseas shipments meet requirements before they enter the United States
- Supports ending overlap in Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) missions
- Requires Secretary to establish a single application program for conducting background checks on individuals participating in multiple programs within DHS used to expedite travel and to provide background checks and security screenings for workers

Public Communication

- Reforms Threat Advisory System to communicate as much specific threat information as possible directly to regions, states, localities, industries, and all Americans
- Designates Secretary as official to spokesperson for all threat information
- Authorizes the Homeland Security Information Network (HSIN), a national, real time communication system for DHS and thousands of local agencies

Intelligence and Counterterrorism

- Requires the DHS Directorate of Science and Technology (S&T) to create a Technology Clearinghouse to research and implement anti-terror technology
- Requires DHS to establish internal analytic expertise used to create and disseminate intelligence products to fight nuclear and biological terrorism
- Creates a National Terrorism Exercise Program to coordinate and establish minimum standards for all federal, state, and local terrorism drills
- Elevates cybersecurity mission by creating an Assistant Secretary for Cybersecurity in charge of the National Cybersecurity Division and National Communications System
- Broadens intelligence process by requiring the use of red teams to help inform counterterrorism measures, particularly against nuclear and biological threats
- Gives Secretary authority to recruit highly sought after intelligence analysts